Railway Modeller April 1975 Vol 26 Number 294

This Month's Shows

York

29th, 31st March 1st April

Assembly Rooms, Blake Street.
Opening times: Saturday and Monday, 10.30 a.m.-8 p.m., Tuesday 10.30 a.m.-7 p.m.

Admission: Adults 30p, Children 15p.

There will be 15 layouts on display in the Hall and, once again, in conjunction the York O Gauge Layout—at their headquarters in Vine Street will be in operation. Special travel arrangements will be made between the two venues.

The exhibits in the main display will be a mixture of several already shown last year plus several new layouts from well known modellers—many of which have never been on view publicly before. Last year's two prize-winners will be returning this year. John Pomroy's "Winton"—the excellent LNER model from the Oxford M.R.C. member, is returning together with "Totnes", Mike Cook's GWR model, built by members of the "South Devon Model Railway Company". Another layout to return will be "Quinmont", the American pike built by Barrie Foster, which features scale sound from the locomotives. Two other local layouts will also be receiving another airing—Mike Smith's "Waldt Stadt" has been much extended since last year whilst Bernard Richmond's American N gauge will also be on view again.

New to York and also to the exhibition public will be the new "Torandor Valley Railway" built by the Andrews family of Watford. Sheffield M.R.S. will also be featuring a completely new layout. Ian Futers, famous for "Glen Douglas", will be exhibiting a fresh layout featuring the North British Railway. Grimsby M.R.S. will be supporting member Bob Pearson with the first showing of his GWR Branch.

Paul Towers will be bringing a model of early railways in N gauge with his new "Pendragon" layout. The North Gwent Group will be bringing their "Pontypool Riverside" layout, whilst Alan Smith (famous for the Lydney Branch) will be bringing his new TT3 layout which features the North Eastern Railway. There will be displays from one of the local grammar schools and a beautiful static display depicting a North Yorkshire village. There will also be displays of Railway Art with an artist actually "at work" and also Railway Heraldry and Railway Relics.

One of the major attractions of the Show this year will be the first public appearance of Mike Sharman's Broad Gauge layout actually in operation. There will be full trade support and a refreshment service will be in operation.

London

National Model Railway Exhibition

31st March —5th April

Central Hall, Westminster.
Opening times: Monday 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Tuesday-Friday 10 a.m.-9 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Admission: Adults 40p, Children 20p (under 14).

The 50th Model Railway Exhibition will feature 11 working layouts from O to N, 16 trade stands, five showcases and six displays by preservation societies as well as the Model Railway Club's traditional static displays, the showcases from many affiliated societies and the ever popular demonstration stands. Refreshments will be available, and the club information booth will be manned to provide information on all manner of subjects, including matters of modelling interest.

To commemorate the half century, a special display of commercial models over the past 50 years will be a prominent feature of the show.

In detail, the main exhibits will be as follows: Teignton Abbot, N gauge BR, Geoff Capel (M.R.C.); Bembridge P4 Southern, M.R.C. Group; Thame S gauge LNWR, S Gauge Society; Pipers Mead, Midland OO gauge, Allan Downes and Graham Beaumont; Wallsea, LNER O gauge, Barrie Walls; Newton Tracey GW N gauge, Keith Armes (S.E. Essex M.R.S.); Swaveney P4 GNR, Neville Hunt and Andy Rush (M.R.C.); Pen-y-Graig E.M. gauge, Cambrian, Tony Jackson (E.M. Society); Mid-Hants OO gauge SR, Mid-Hants Group; Carsuemar Quarry 4mm 009, Jim Halsall (Blackburn & East Lancs. M.R.C.); Newbourne & Daverton N gauge GW, David Sutton (Crawley M.R.S.).

Trade stands will be RAILWAY MODELLER, PECO, Ian Allan, Hobbytime, M. & R. (Model Railways), Wills Finecast, G. E. Mellor, Victors, Oxford Publishing, Slaters Plastikard, K's, Hornby Rovex, Norman Wisenden, W. & H. Models, G. & R. Wrenn and E.A.M.E.S. Showcases: Modern Traction Kits, Mallard Models, Prototype Models, Model Bus Federation, Hammant & Morgan. Other Stands: L.C.G.B., R.C.T.S., T.R.P.S., F.R.S., S.R. Homes, Romney, Hythe & Dymchurch Railway Society (Historic display).

Bristol

Association of Model Railway Clubs, Wales and West of England.

3rd—5th April

Victoria Rooms, Whiteladies Road.
Opening times: Thursday 10 a.m.-9 p.m., Friday 10 a.m.-9 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m.-7 p.m.
Admission: Adults 35p, Children 15p.

During Easter week the Victoria Rooms will once again be the venue for the Annual Exhibition of model railways organised by the Association of Model Railway Clubs, Wales and West of England.

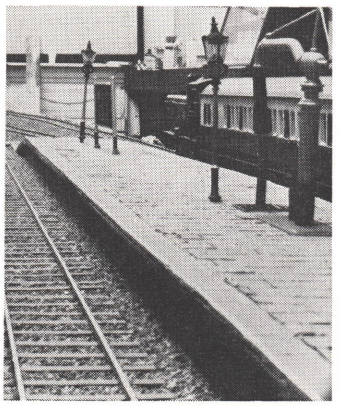
On show will be a blend of all the popular gauges as well as a balanced variety of the trade and railway preservation and modelling societies. Of particular interest will be a Diorama produced by the Bristol area H.M.R.S. members. Also on show will be a layout to P4 standards produced by the recently formed Bristol Area P4 Society Group.

Guest exhibits on view this year will include the ever popular Yatton Junction making a welcome return to Bristol after a lapse of approximately 4 years since its last major public showing in the area. Mike Sharman's new Broad Gauge layout is now complete and operational and will be on display. We have had the pleasure of seeing this railway grow over the past few years whilst watching Mike display his undoubted talents of model building, now we shall be able to see the fruits of those labours and enjoy some running. This will be the railway's second public showing, as it will be on view at the York show over the Bank Holiday. Making a first visit to Bristol will be the Woodside Union Terminal R.R., an American railway to N.M.R.A. Standards, built by the North Middlesex M.R.C., Milkwood, by Dave Rowe, last year's Bristol Buffer winner, is making a welcome return, with to quote "Milkwood Part 1 and Part 2". Those of us who know the work of Dave Rowe look forward in anticipation to the delights Part 2 holds in store.

The remaining exhibits are all by Association member Clubs and include Buryhill, the N gauge layout by Bristol East (Downend) M.R.C. who won several Trophys with this railway at last year's exhibition.

The Rev. Awdry is, all being well, bringing Thomas and Edward along, together with the rest of his collection, and will no doubt be a centre of attraction for our younger visitors.

Newport and District M.R.C. are exhibiting Long Suffren, a railway designed according to prototype practice and operated to a timetable using the famous award winning "backward running clock"! It is understood that some automation has taken place on this layout and should provide for some interesting running. The static exhibits and showcase models will no doubt be worthy of close scrutiny, showing as they do the wide variety of members interest. Light refreshments and drinks will be on sale during the exhibition, so why not come along and spend a couple of hours at this most absorbing, friendly and increasingly popular show, it is well worth the time and effort, there's something for everyone to enjoy.



Newport MRS "Long Suffren" OO gauge layout to be seen at Bristol notable for fine hand-made track and attention to detail.

Scrapbox *Contd. from p. 97*

planning authorities, in the hope it will be ready for the summer season. We now know something of the problems railway pioneers faced when they applied for Parliamentary powers!

Holiday Guide

We are also compiling this year's Holiday Guide, to be published in our June issue. If anyone operating a permanent model railway exhibition, running a small gauge passenger carrying line, or organising some permanent railway museum or collection, open to visitors at stated times, who has not returned our questionnaire or, more important still, not even heard from us at all (we do not pretend to know every new attraction by extra sensory perception) would they kindly write at once so we can be sure of including their venue in our guide.

THE MODEL RAILWAY EXHIBITION

THE Model Railway Club is very proud of the fact that this year's Exhibition, which takes place as usual during Easter week at the Central Hall, Tothill Street, London, S.W.1, is its fiftieth; and is also very glad that, by a fortunate coincidence, this year sees the 150th anniversary of the Stockton & Darlington Railway, widely regarded by all except adherents of the Liverpool & Manchester Railway of 1830, as the beginning of our national railway system.

The club began life at the end of 1910 and held its very first Exhibition on March 12th, 1912, making a profit on the day of 5/- (25 pence in this decadent age, but worth about £5 in terms of 1975 purchasing power). It held another in 1913, when the profit amounted to £2.11.6d, and all seemed set fair for an infinite series of expanding shows when a certain Kaiser Bill stepped in and put a stop, temporarily, to any further progress. The same thing happened in 1940 when another tiresome individual, Corporal Schicklgruber, alias Hitler, tried, equally unsuccessfully, to put the nation and the Club out of business.

Details of early Exhibitions are somewhat scanty, but it is known that some were staged at the Kingsway Hall in Holborn, and that a suggestion, made in 1927, that we should move to the Central Hall was turned down on the grounds that any such move would inconvenience our regular attenders who, by then, numbered some 3,000. However, the move *was* finally made in 1931 and, with the exception of the War years and a few isolated occasions, we have been there ever since.

This year's Exhibition will be, we hope, an exceptional affair as a result of the celebration of double anniversaries. Details will be found elsewhere, but the best of all ways of finding out what we propose to exhibit is to come along and see for yourself.

D. A. BOREHAM.

Ex-LBSCR "Terrier" 40 Brighton (later IWCR No. 11, SR W11 Newport & BR 32640) left Ryde St. John's Road on 17th January bound for Haven Street, where it will be restored to lined black livery (IWCR) and displayed on loan to the Wight Locomotive Society from Butlins. Minor repairs have been carried out in Ryde Works, although staff shortages have prevented a full restoration. (Photo: Roger Bartrum.)